

P.O. Box 135
Keyport, Washington 98345

January 12, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to express my support for Microsoft in the government's antitrust case. A settlement has been reached and I think that it should be respected. Microsoft has been punished enough in the last three years. This lawsuit has been a waste of time and money. Everyone, the government included, has better things to do than pursue a lawsuit that punishes a company for being successful.

It is a total injustice to allow every competitor of Microsoft to continue their influence over the courts and to blame Microsoft for their own inability to have and market a better product. I don't believe there has been one consumer financially damaged by Microsoft's business tactics. Enough is Enough!

Microsoft may have made some mistakes, but they are ready to change their ways. The settlement is evidence of that. Microsoft is conceding a great deal in order to move on. They are giving away some of their technology information and making it easier for consumers to use non-Microsoft programs within their Windows platform. Please respect the efforts of Microsoft and their supporters. This settlement is fair and is a good ending to this whole mess.

Sincerely,

Richard R Beatty